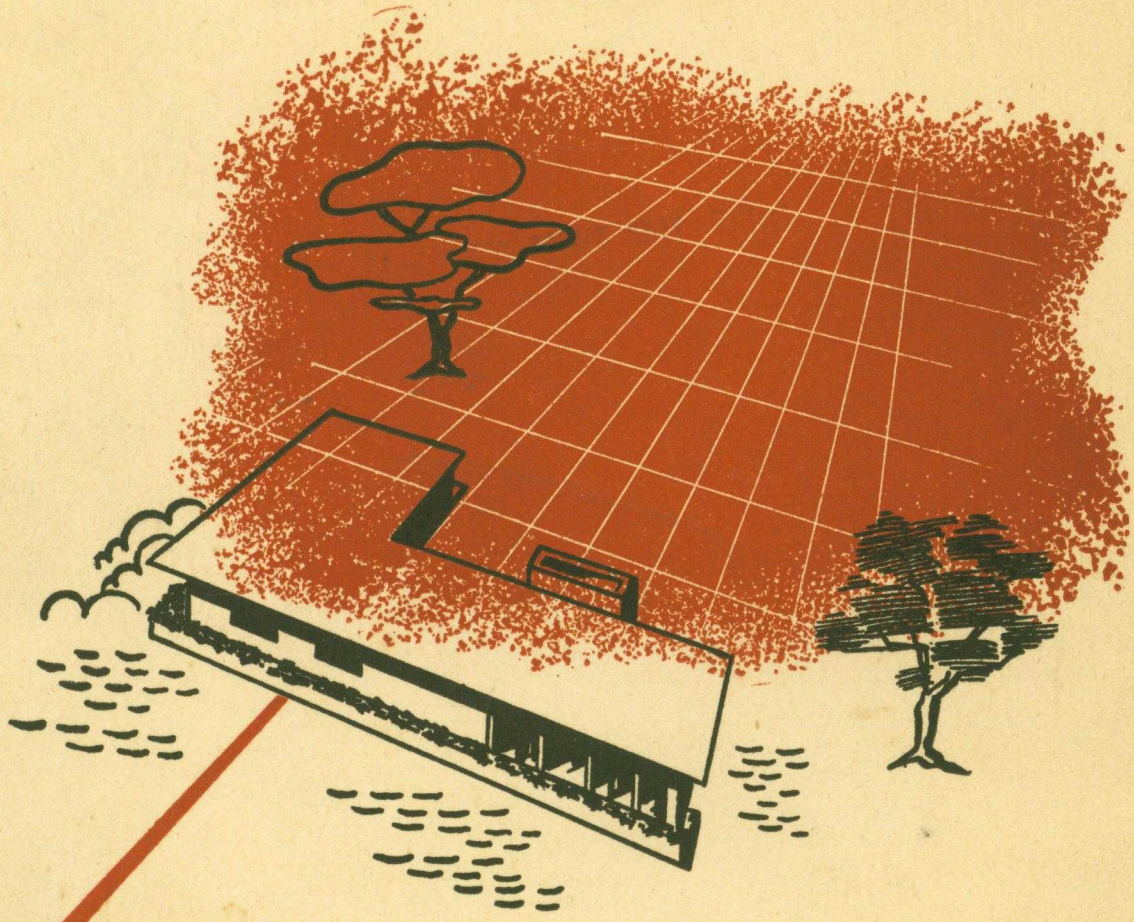
BRICK

at home



COLUMBIA BRICK WORKS

1320 S. E. WATER AVE. PORTLAND 14, ORE.

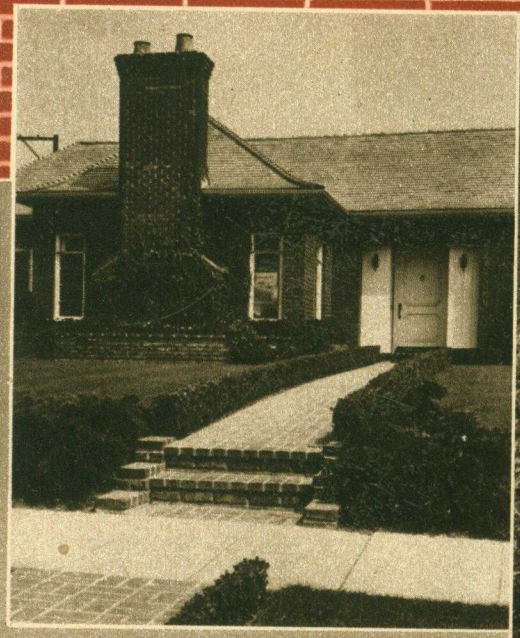
EAST 1101

Ideas in BRICK

This book shows photographically how brick will beautify and enhance your home, in —

- Entryways
- Gates
- Fireplaces
- Corner Fireplaces
- Double Fireplaces
- Inside Walls
- Floors
- Kitchens
- Planters
- Terraces
- Barbecues
- Veneers
- Chimneys
- Pools
- Tree Wells
- Walks
- Steps
- Garden Walls

ENTRYWAYS



• Tudor goes modern in this brick house with massive chimney, brick planter around the living room wing, and straight formal path.

• Veneer of brick painted gray frames the recessed doorway, basketweave paving of common brick gives warm color contrast at the approach to this modern house.

• Used brick combines with rich grain of paneled door at the entrance to this contemporary ranch house; low planter and curved steps complete the nicely balanced design.

• Symmetrical facade of brick veneer and brick planting boxes is accented by white window and roof trim, white risers on the brick steps and concrete path edged with brick.

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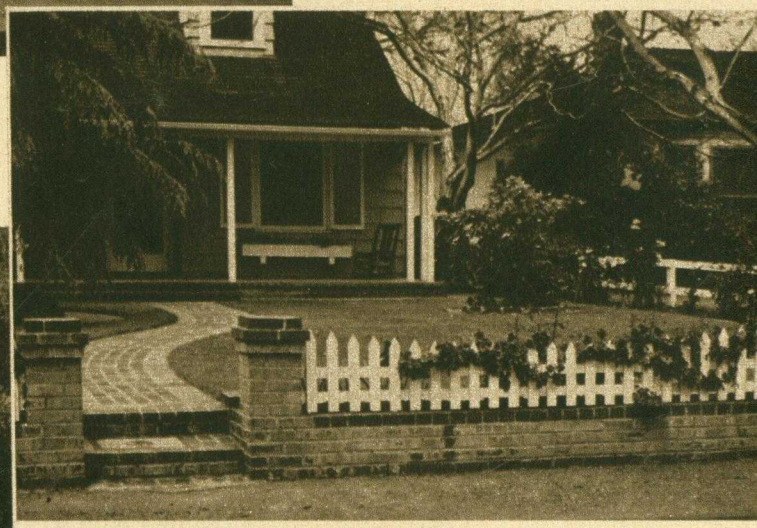
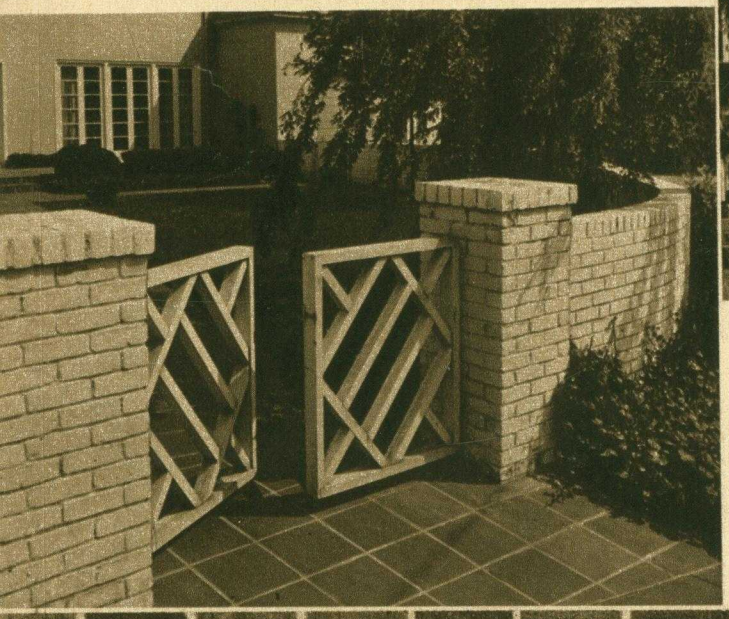
ENTRYWAYS AND GATES—best foot forward

• One wall of brick veneer, brick steps and path give texture contrast to this shingled house with its roof of heavy cedar shakes.

• Doorway in the grand manner uses tailored steps and broad basketweave path to accentuate the dignity and formality of the house.



• Simple charm of the white picket fence combined with low brick wall speaks of friendliness and hospitality within; the curving path leading to a wide brick porch adds a further note of charm to this suburban residence.



• Red clay tile path leads through white entrance gates set in a low curving wall of whitewashed brick; the graceful line of the wall, set off by formal planting, adds distinction to this entrance.

Brick inside —in FIREPLACES

• Living room wall of common red brick makes a stunning setting for the copper hood of this fireplace with its simple brick hearth. Exposed planks and beams of the ceiling, combined with the warmth of the brick, give the room its homespun warmth and charm.

• Tongue-and-groove paneled wall makes a perfect background for a finely designed fireplace of Norman brick set off by a frame of polished wood. Contemporary-traditional furnishings are in perfect keeping.

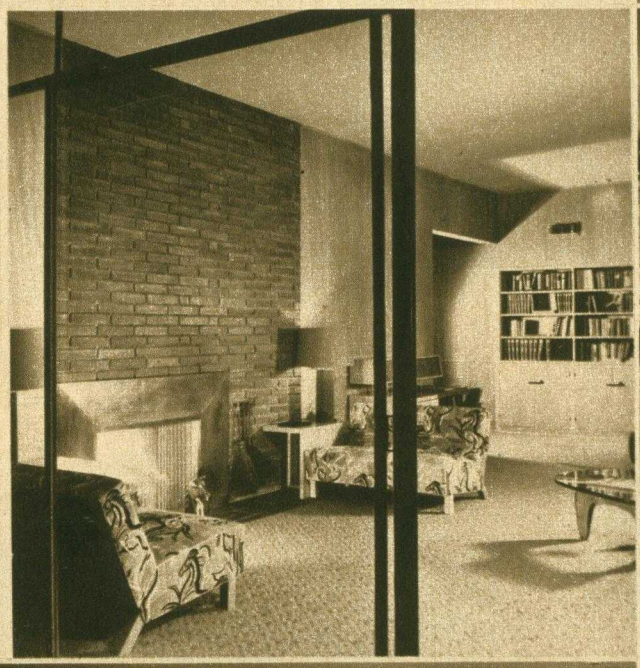
• In a paneled den, this fireplace of face brick adds a graceful arch for design interest, puts a wooden mantel above to hold philodendron in a brass kettle. The subtle tones of brick are repeated in the patterned wallpaper on the ceiling.

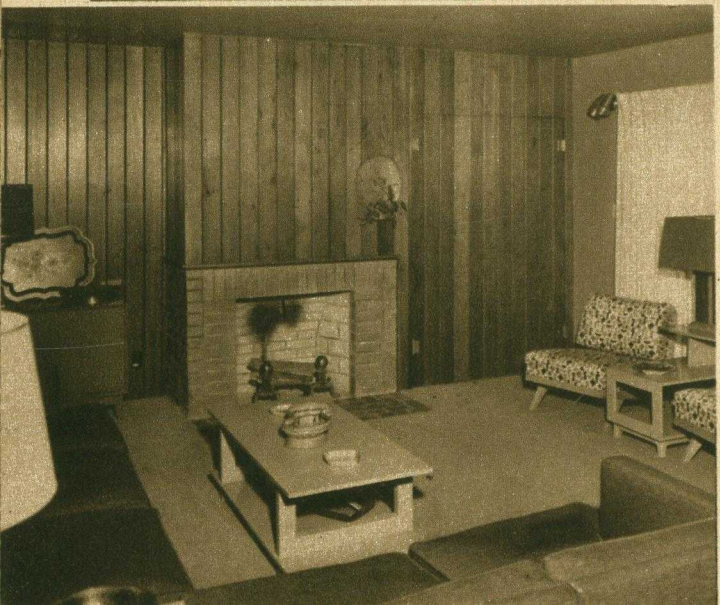
• By placing the fireplace in a corner, this redwood paneled den achieves the ultimate in warmth and coziness. Gleaming metal of the fire curtain is repeated in the polished platter on the mantel.

FIREPLACES key the room

• A fireplace set in a wall of birch uses Roman brick to further accentuate the horizontal lines of the design.

• Tall wall of brick laid flush with the adjacent walls of etched plywood makes a handsome modern fireplace. The wide frame is of burnished copper, the whole feeling is one of drama and style.

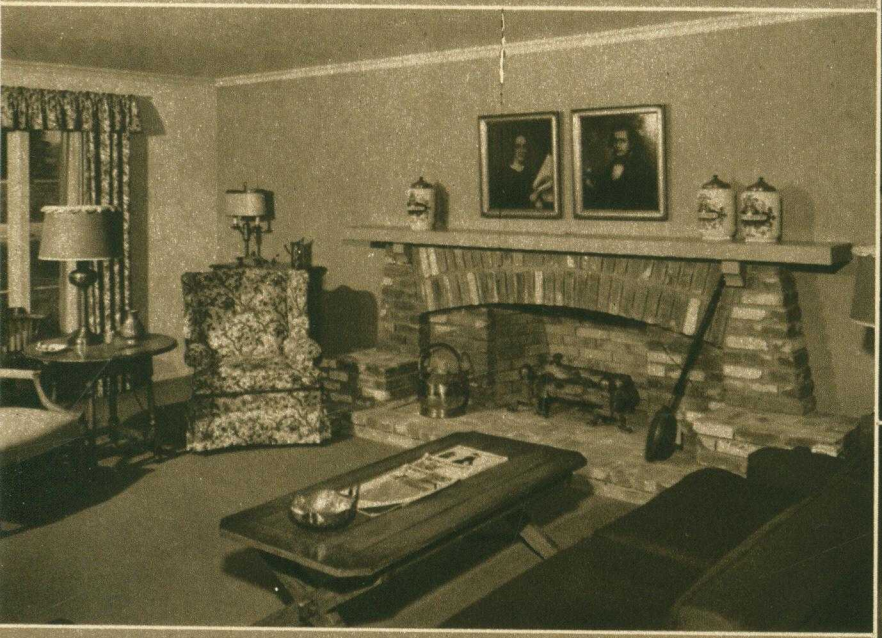




• Fine lines of this fireplace are given unusual texture interest by the brick design, a basket pattern. The same brick design continues along the wall to form a background for an indoor planter filled with lush tropical greenery. Other interesting notes —the sconces on the brick wall, the smooth raised hearth.

• A small modern home gives distinction to its living room by setting the fireplace flush in a paneled wall, which is broken back to leave one side of the fireplace exposed. Clean symmetry of the design keynotes the entire room.

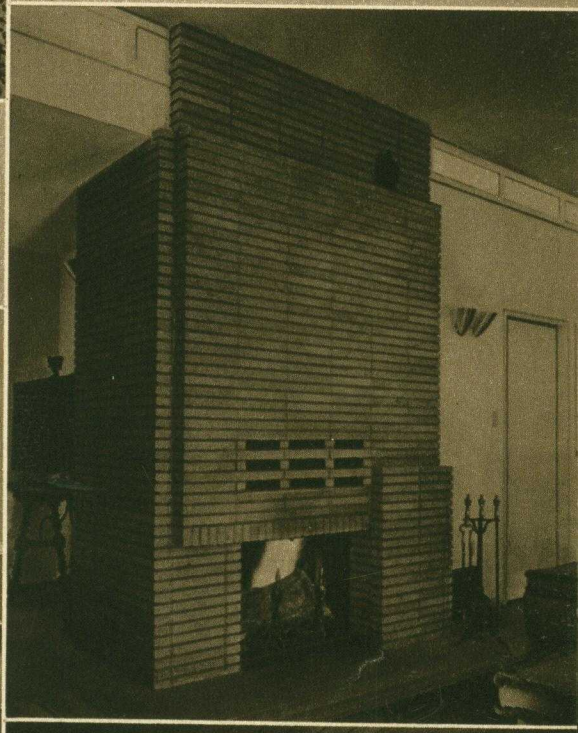
• Recessed fireplace of used brick complements the architecture and furnishings of a contemporary ranch house. Framed by heavy redwood beams, it adds another rough beam for a mantel; the raised hearth is wide enough to hold a carved brass woodbox, afford pleasant by-the-fire seating capacity. Log storage is behind door at the left.

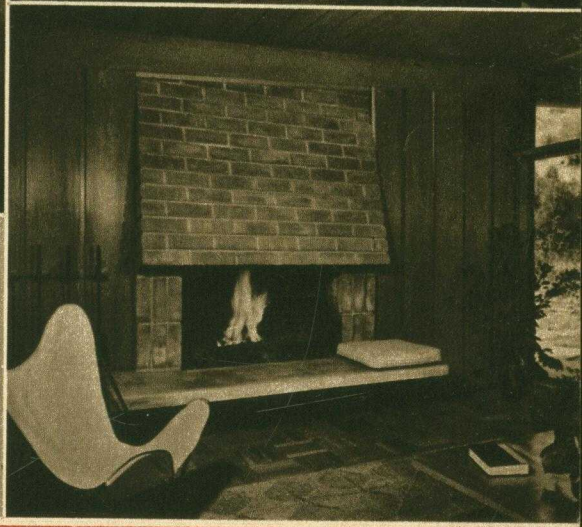


• Rustic fireplace of used brick is broad and low of line, has a raised brick seat at either end of the hearth. Slightly slanting sides and shallow arch minimize its bulk; the low mantel is painted the same color as the walls.

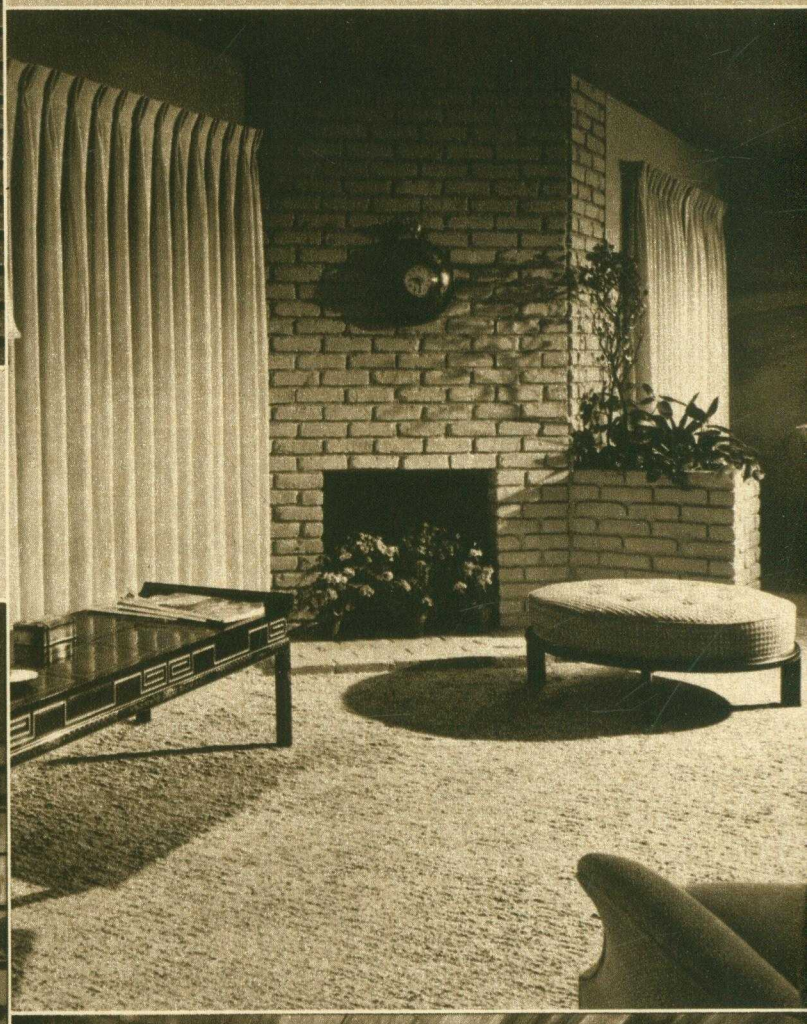
• Unusual brick hood makes a conversation piece of this fireplace in a small home. Supported by steel—as is the raised sit-by the-fire hearth—it achieves a feeling of warmth and solidity with its well-balanced lines and the soft color of the brick.

• For the utmost in heating efficiency, many homeowners prefer using a steel heat-circulating unit, building their fireplace around it. The unit consists of a metal firebox with air-heating chambers around it; the air, entering these chambers at floor level, is heated by contact with the metal firebox walls, rises and circulates out into the room through vents at some point higher than the firebox. In this fireplace the vents—below at the left and directly above the fire—are incorporated into the design of the fireplace itself. A good designer can adapt any style of fireplace to such a unit, thereby greatly increasing the warming effect of the fire.





CORNER FIREPLACES



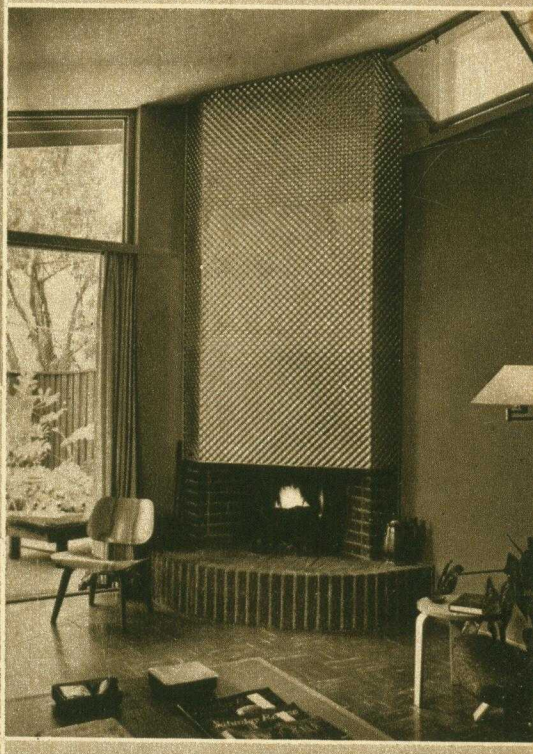
• Corner fireplace of gray painted brick with planter adjoining it serves to separate the living room from the dining area in this attractive home. For summer charm flowering pots are placed on the hearth, add a cheerful note of color.

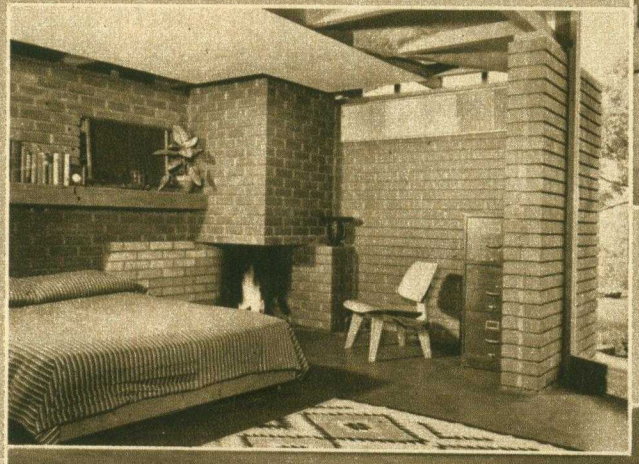
• This corner fireplace of face brick is free-standing, makes possible a wide furniture grouping which takes full advantage of its warmth.

• Raised fireplace of mellow aged brick adds richness of texture to this den with its rough beams and dark paneled walls. Brick continues to form the wall with its leaded window; quarry tile floor is waxed to bring out its deep russet color.

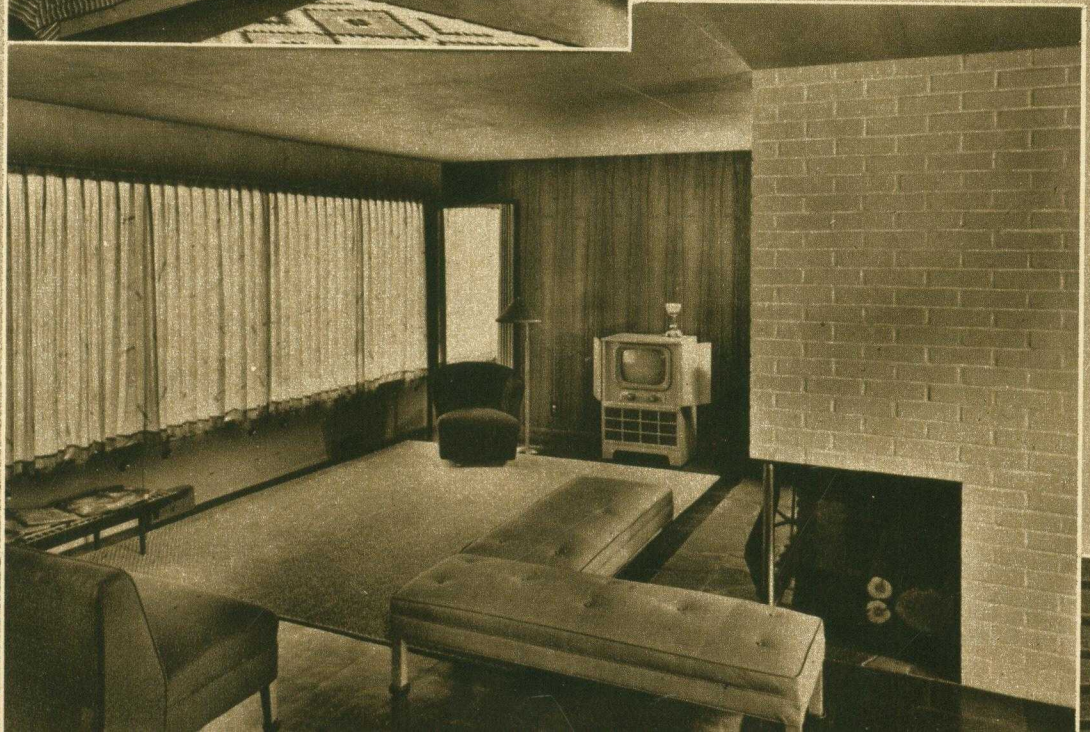
• A brick wall turns a corner and angles out into the large modern living room to make a semi-separate section of the fireplace area. Straight brick hood and low brick bench add interest to the design.

• To save space in a bachelor apartment, the architect designed this corner fireplace of brick with a stylized chimney of pressed metal. The rounded, raised hearth uses Norman brick laid on end.





• Bedroom fireplace in the home above has a hood supported by brick pilasters. Three walls of the room are of brick, the fourth of sliding glass.



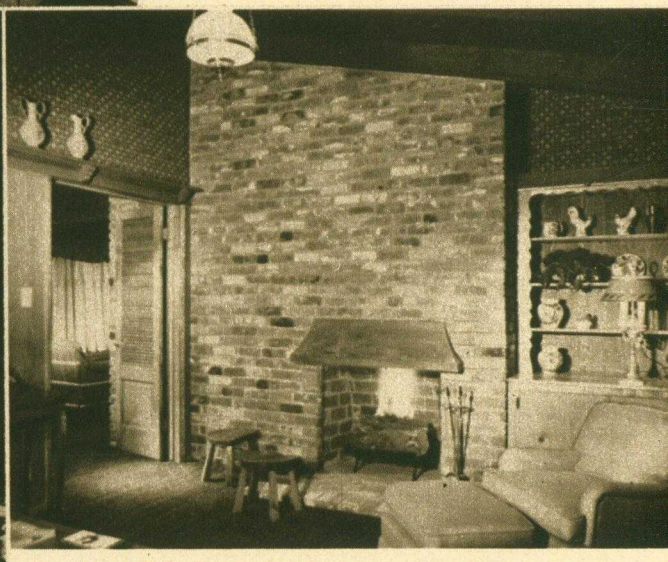
• A polished brass pipe supports the free corner of this fireplace of common brick painted white; low angled bench takes full advantage of the wide fire radius.

DOUBLE FIREPLACES
— back to back

• Double use for the same chimney—by using two flues you can have companion fireplaces in both living room and den. Here, in the living room, rough hewn beams support the mantel; the extension of brick wall at the right is the back of the den fireplace. Soft patina of used brick blends well with the provincial furnishings. The den (above) slightly recessed, has a fireplace of strictly modern lines, no mantel. Wallpaper and furnishings complement the subtle variations of color in the brick.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Photographs in this book have been compiled with the cooperation of: Barker Bros., Los Angeles; Clay Brick & Tile Association, San Francisco; Associated Brick Manufacturers of Southern California, Los Angeles; Thermador Corporation, Palos Verdes Corporation, and the California Spring Garden Show.

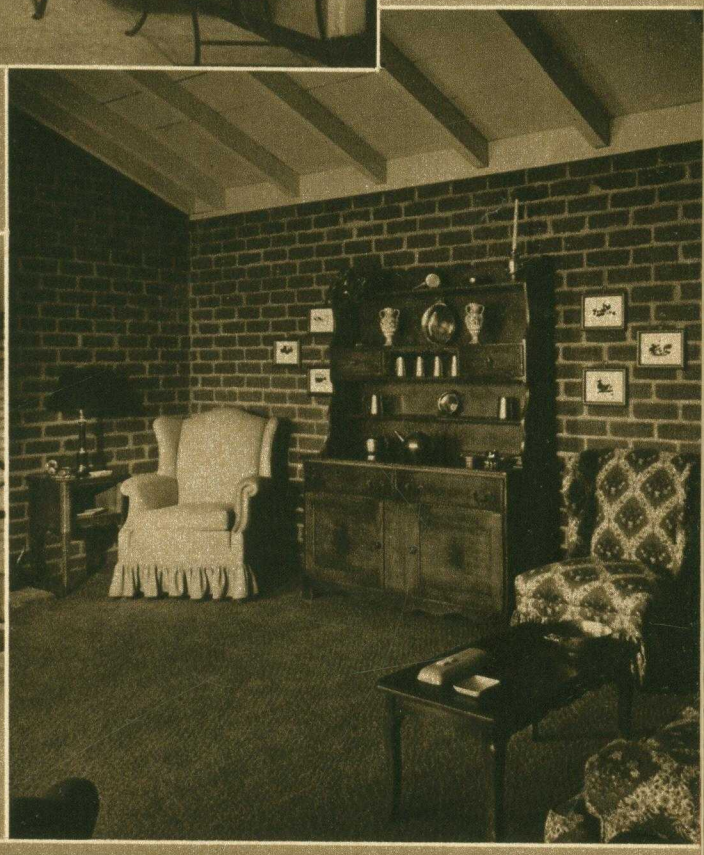


• Another double chimney with the same homespun theme. The side wall of the fireplace faces the entrance hall, is dressed up with a handsome pendulum clock. Den fireplace (above), of the same used brick, has a copper hood to break its straight lines.

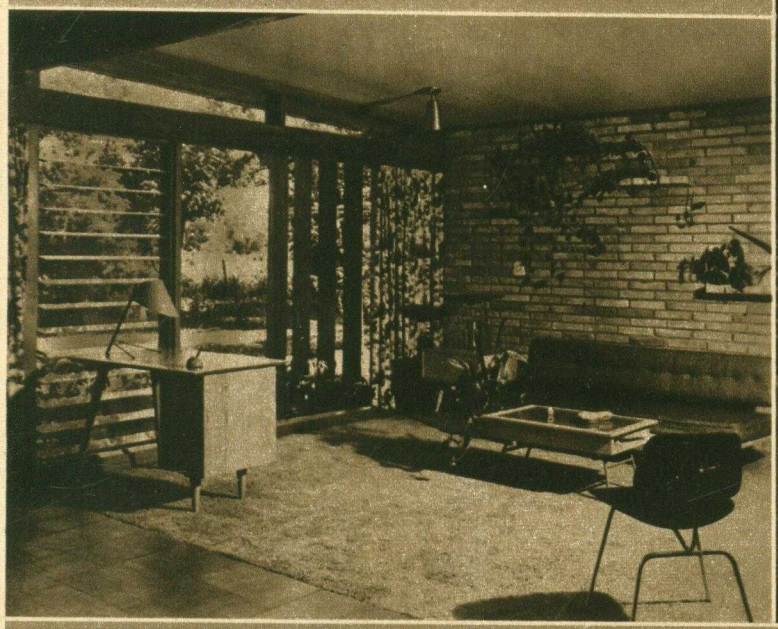
Brick inside—in WALLS

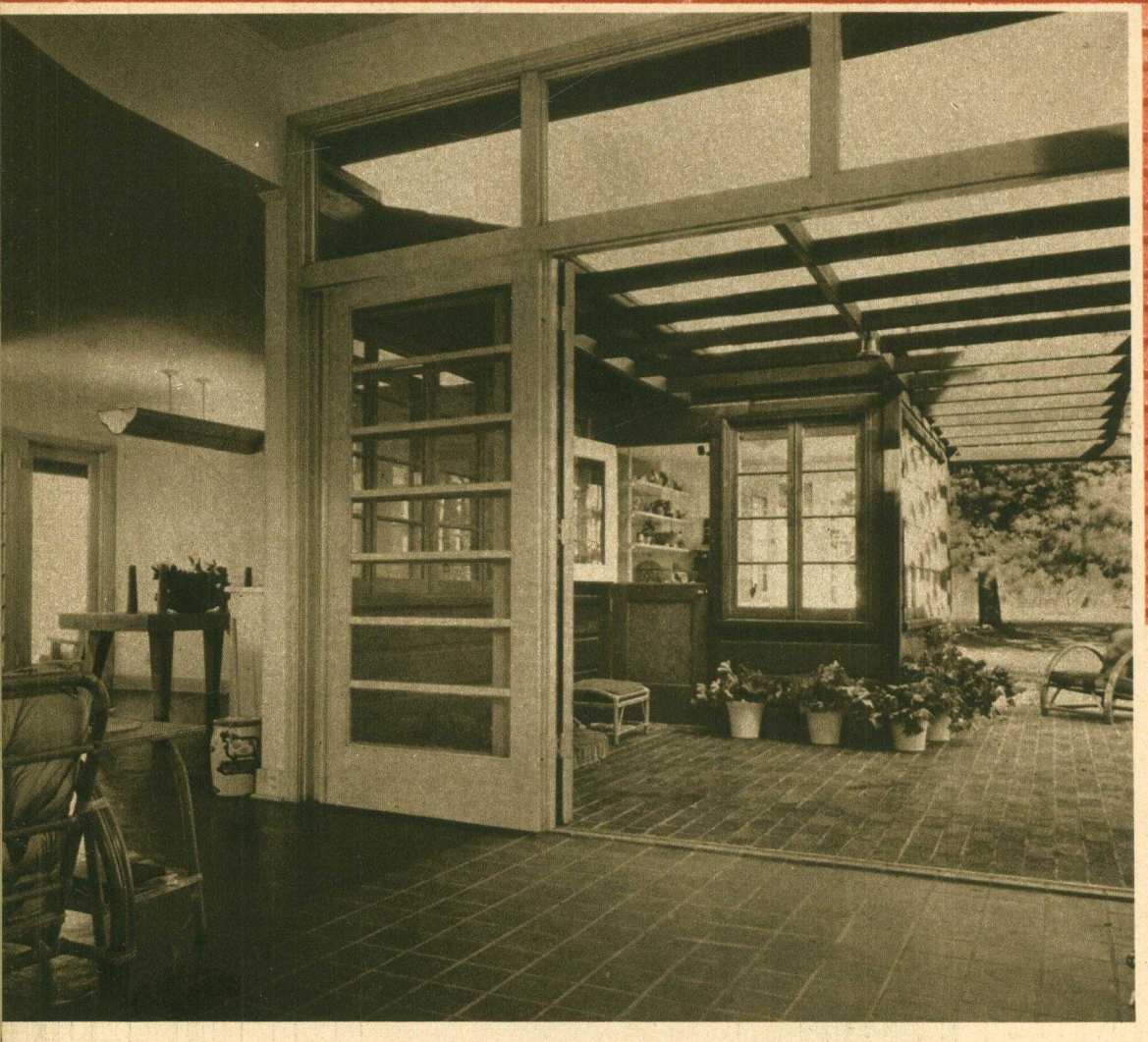
• Interesting contrast in this living room is achieved by two walls of exposed brick, background for traditional furnishings and pictures. Pattern is varied by header courses at intervals; the metal lighting trough adds a decorative note, breaks the extreme height of the rear wall.

• Provincial furniture and brick walls make a perfect match in this living room with its slanting ceiling, which is painted white to accentuate the mortar.



• Brick wall in this terrace room has small shelves of brick at irregular intervals for effective display of tropical plants and vines.





• Quarry tile inside, brick paving on the terrace outside give a continuity of indoor-outdoor living areas, one flowing into the other through the wide terrace doors. Both floors are attractive, colorful, easy to maintain.

Brick inside—in FLOORS

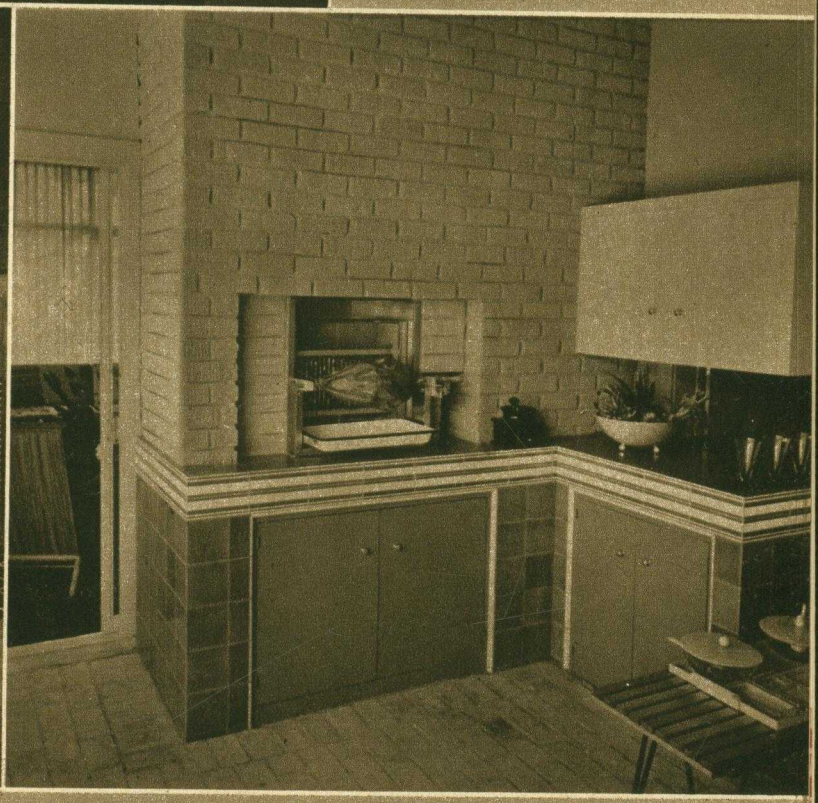
• Brick laid in a triple basketweave pattern begins at the edge of the living room rug, makes a uniform and colorful floor throughout the dining and kitchen area of this modern house. Texture of the brick dramatizes the contemporary-traditional furniture, the smooth paneling of kitchen cabinets.

Brick inside—in KITCHENS

• A shallow broiler niche of used brick dominates this dining room, is fitted with electric plate and portable barbecue for informal entertaining.

• (Lower left) Red face brick makes a handsome kitchen barbecue and serving counter, with storage bin below for briquets, condiment shelves in the brick cupboard at left. The apron of tile is grease-resistant, protects the cork floor; the unusual hood is of tooled copper.

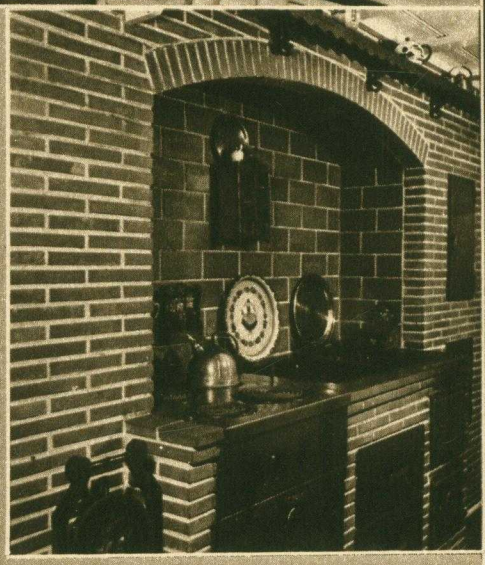
• (Below) Indoor barbecue of ruffle brick painted beige has counter of ceramic tile, simple brick floor. Cupboards below are for fuel and utensils, cupboard above pass-through to kitchen is for china and glasses.



• Week end building by the owner made a cheerful recreation room of his former basement. Oven and barbecue are built into the brick wall; sink, dishwasher and cooking top are set in redwood cabinets with a tile top. The whole is damage-proof, party-proof, and guaranteed to give the family years of fun.

• Clay tile makes a clean and colorful background for the recessed gas range in an architect's home.

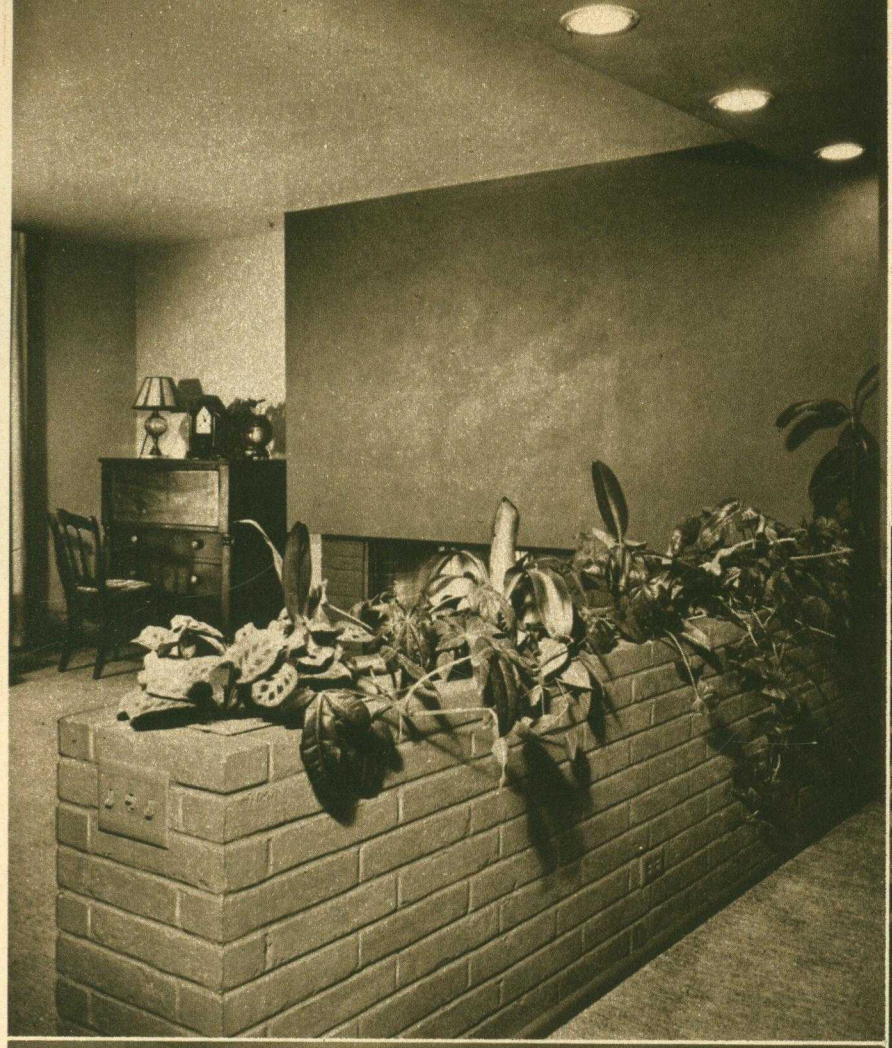
Cooking is at home with BRICK



• A provincial kitchen has an electric range and ovens built into a wall of face brick; cooking odors are whisked away by a fan under the arch above. Burned clay brick and tile, with their fine mellowing and grease-resistant qualities, are ideal cooking companions.

• Unusual handling of Roman brick creates a unique and handsome indoor barbecue-fireplace. The raised hearth is made of brick laid on end, the chimney of herringbone bond, the curved hood of common brick, the counter and floor of tile. Cooking grill is removable to give full scope to the after-dinner fire.

Brick inside —IN PLANTERS

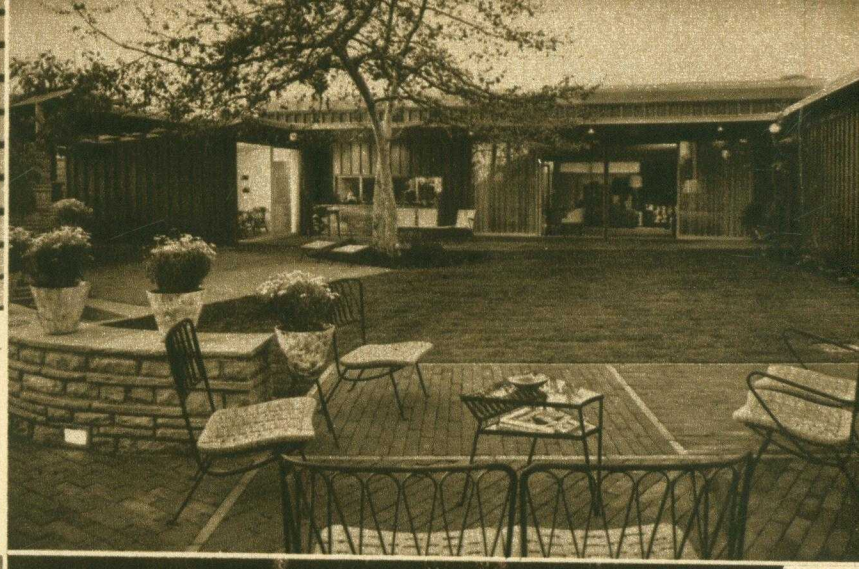


• Brick walks straight into the living room and finds a warm welcome. Here, in this long planting box which forms the entry hall, a profusion of potted plants makes a year-long garden, gives the room its most effective decoration.

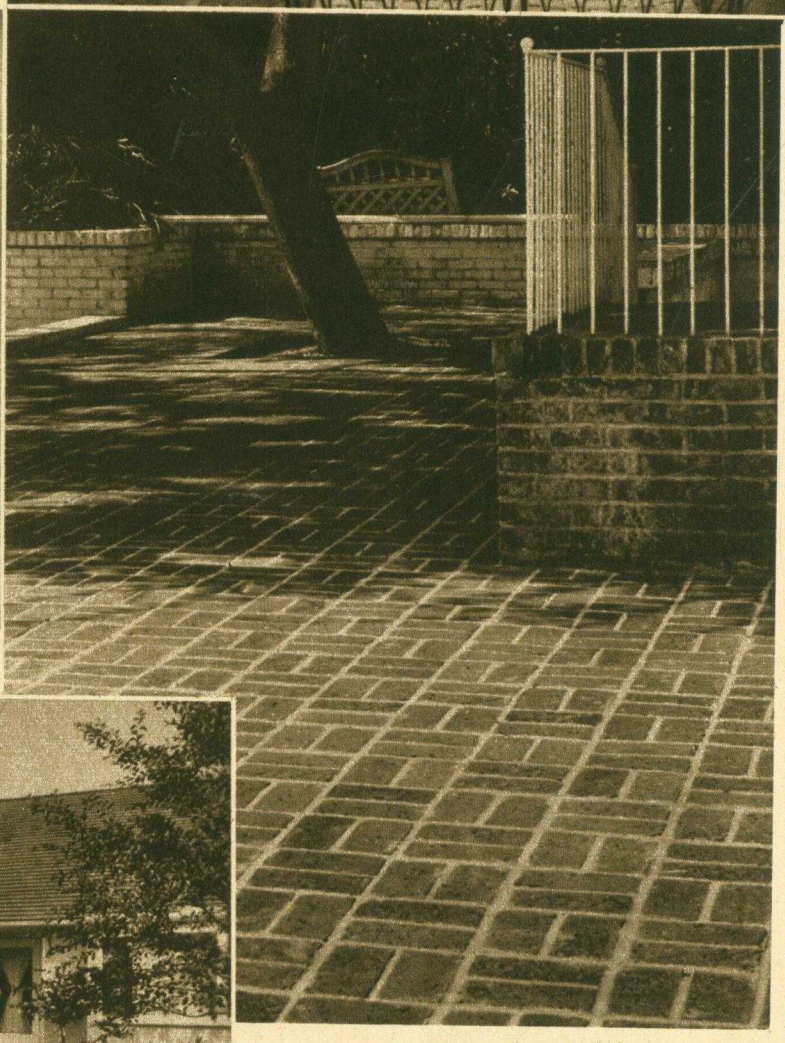
• Nothing is more effective than tropical green against the texture and color of brick, and the drama is heightened by moving the combination inside. This planter has the additional function of dividing the living room from the dining alcove.

• Breakfast nook of a sunny suburban kitchen has a brick planter extending the length of the window walls. Brick is painted white to contrast with the pale yellow room.

Brick outside —IN TERRACES

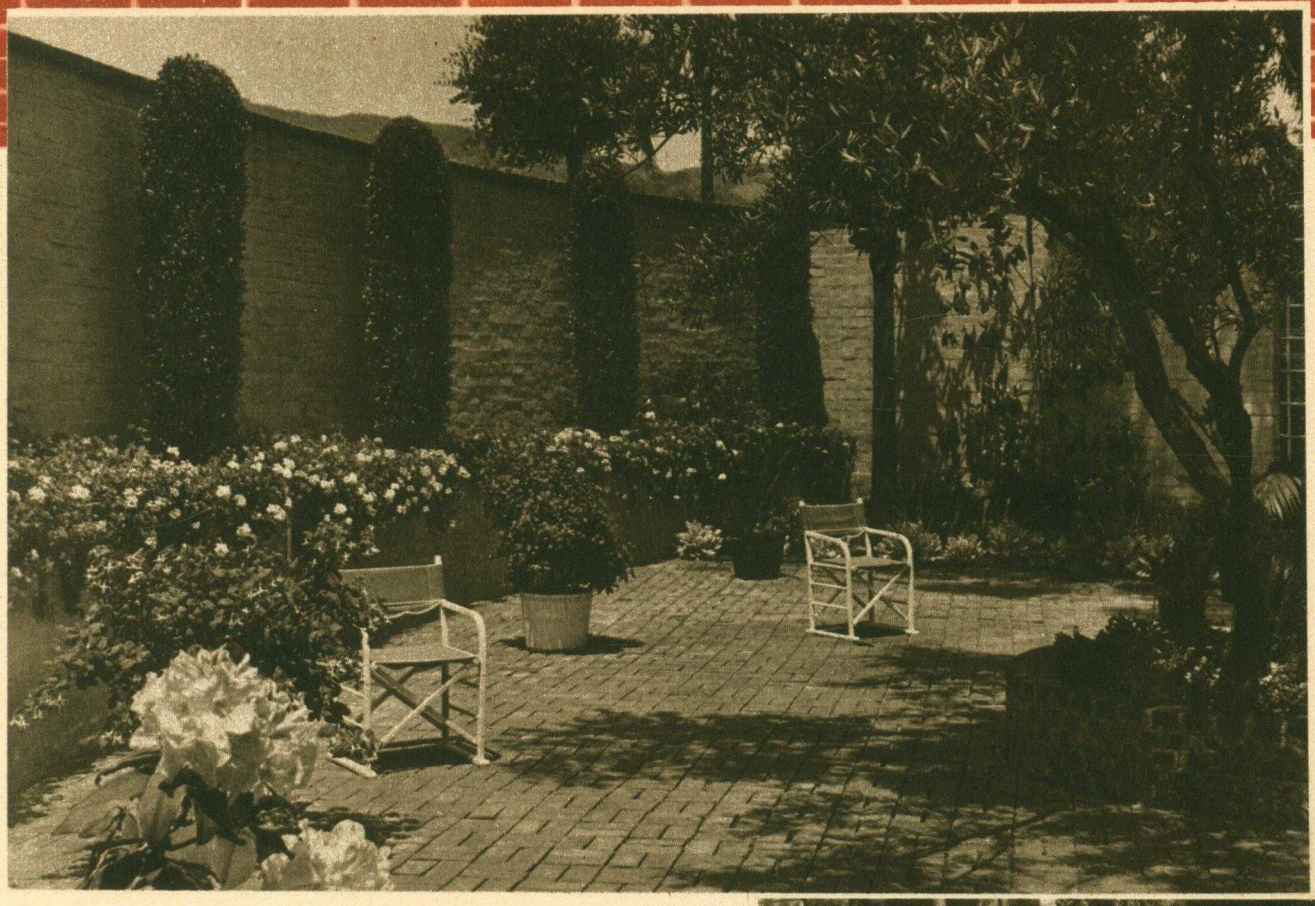


• Brick laid in areas between strips of redwood make a handsome terrace, as modern as tomorrow. By varying the direction of brick courses the stylized pattern is further accentuated. Below, living room side of same terrace.



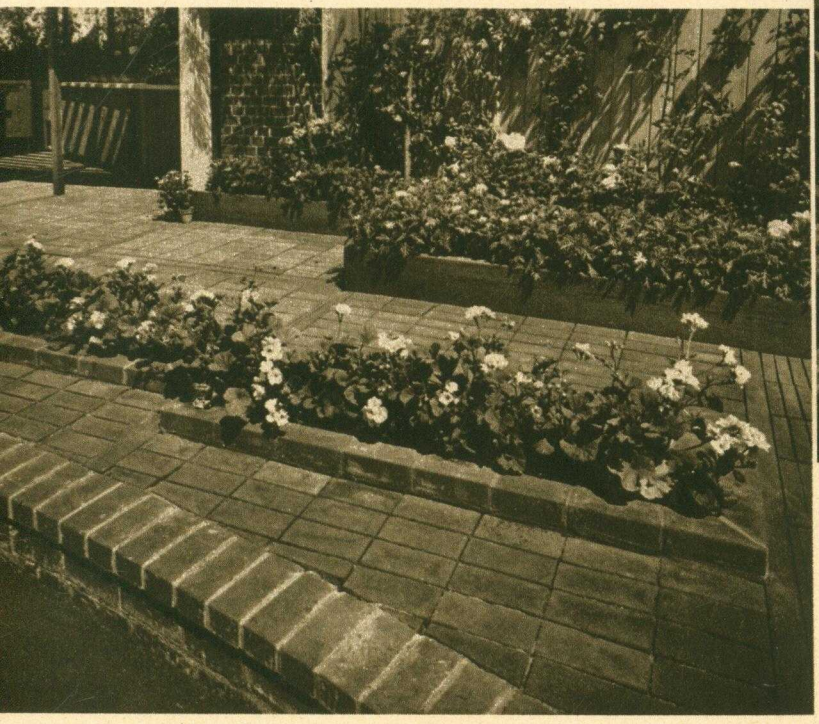
• Nowhere is brick more decorative than out of doors. Here, in basket pattern laid in mortar, it has created an open room of generous size and soft changing colors.

• Dining porch, steps and low wall around planting beds are of brick laid in mortar; open terrace paving is the same common brick laid in sand.



• Sheltered by a tall wall accented with evergreen shrubs and raised flower bed, this terrace is usable even on a blustery day. Shade plants flourish in the circular tree well which is wide enough (brick length) to form a garden bench.

• Graceful curved ribbon of brick defines the planting beds; low wall, also curved, edges a terrace with brick paving laid in squares.



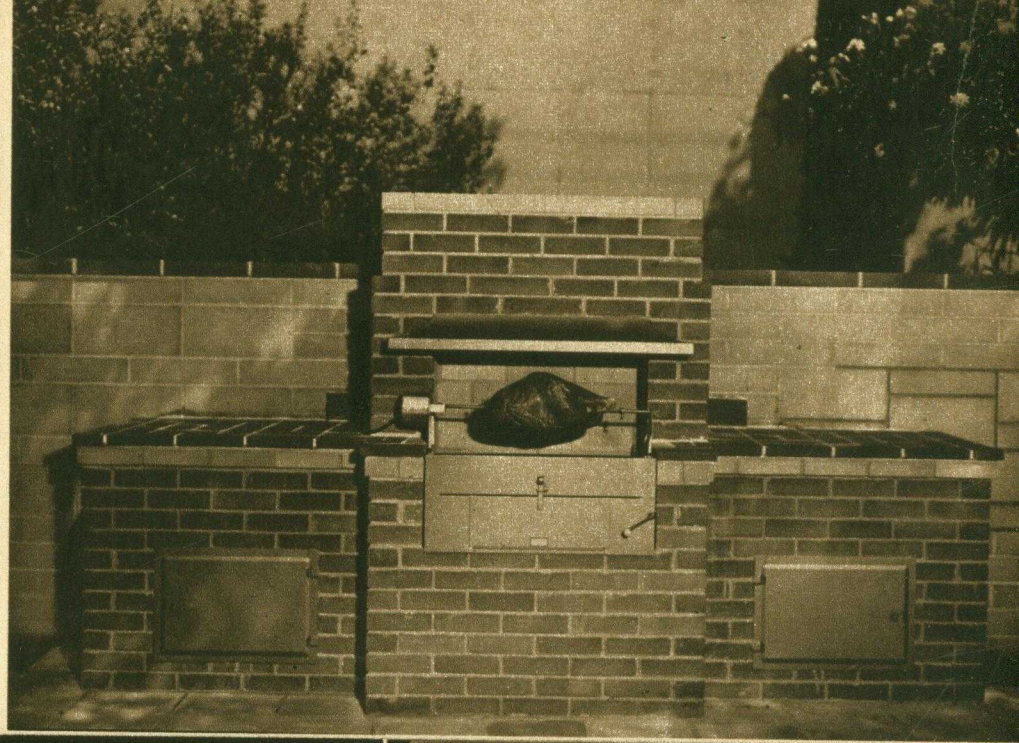
• Irregular pattern of angled flower beds inset in the paving creates an unusual effect. Paving is laid dry in even rows to further heighten the design.

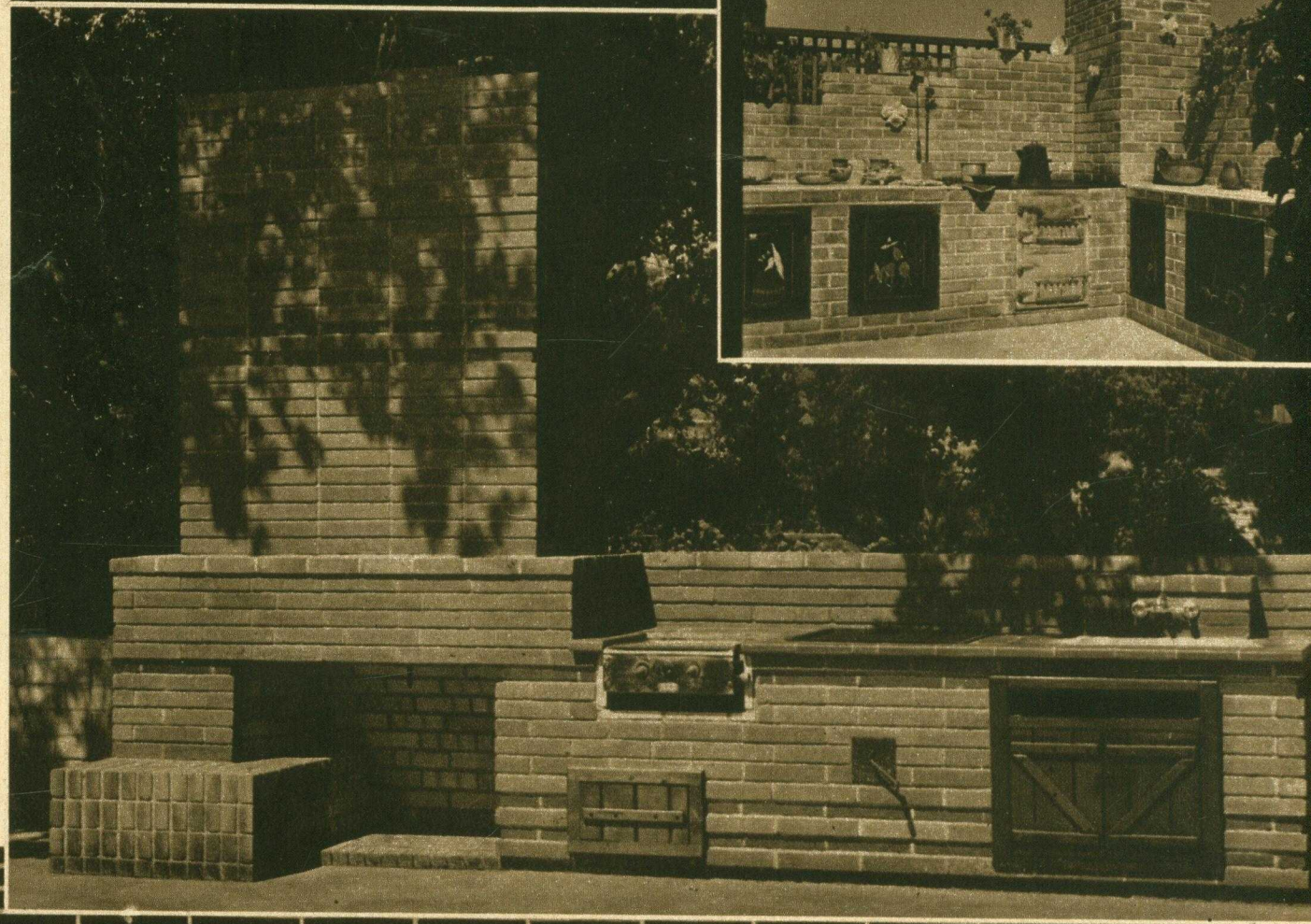
Brick in BARBECUES

• Raised fireplace-barbecue with electric spit unit is one of the most popular types.

• (Lower right) Outdoor cooking range of common brick has ample serving counters, storage and ovens, and room for decorative effects as well.

• (Below) Like the furnishings of your home, the barbecue you build should fit in with the way you like to live, the size and location of your outdoor living room, the size of your purse. This elaborate fireplace of Norman brick can give food and cheer to a large crowd, is complete with cooking top, grill and sink.

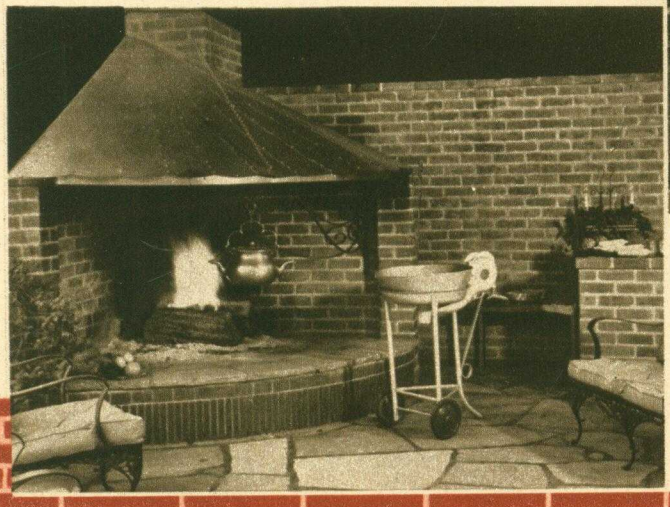




• Practical and space-saving, this corner fireplace has a metal hood, grill with spit on one side, serving counter on the other.

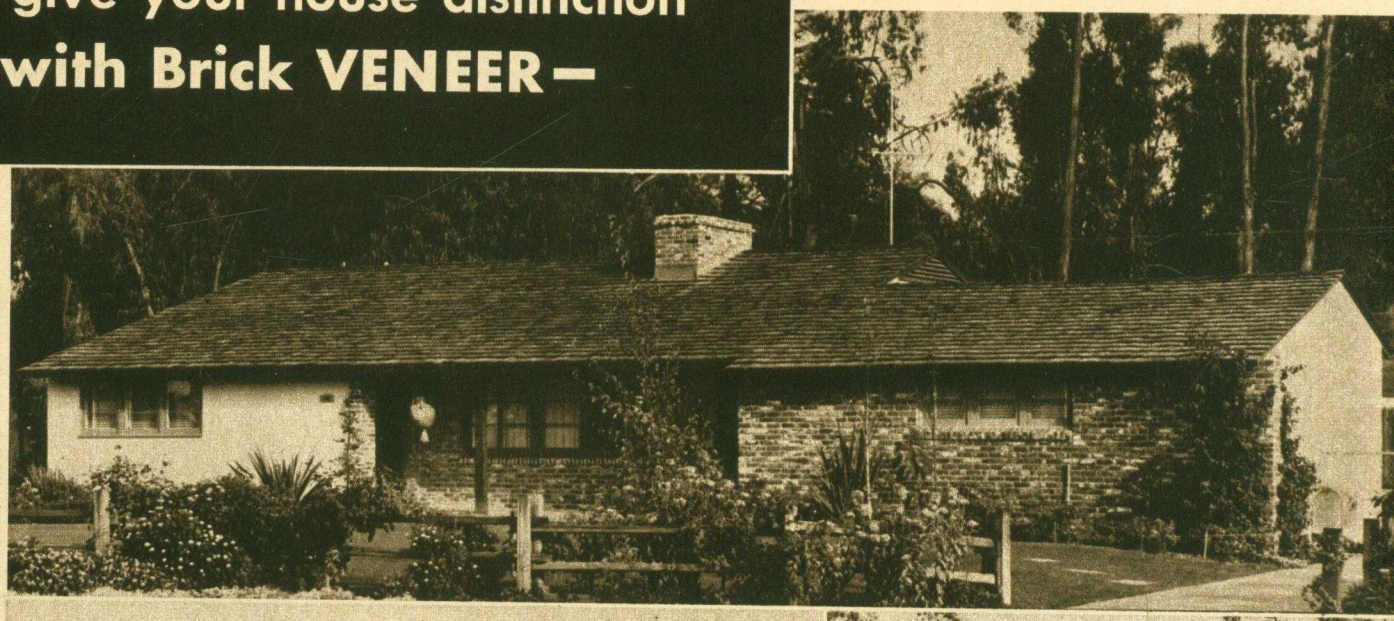
• Fireplace and adjoining barbecue are built on a graceful curve and flanked by a low brick wall; circular terrace is paved with basket pattern laid in mortar.

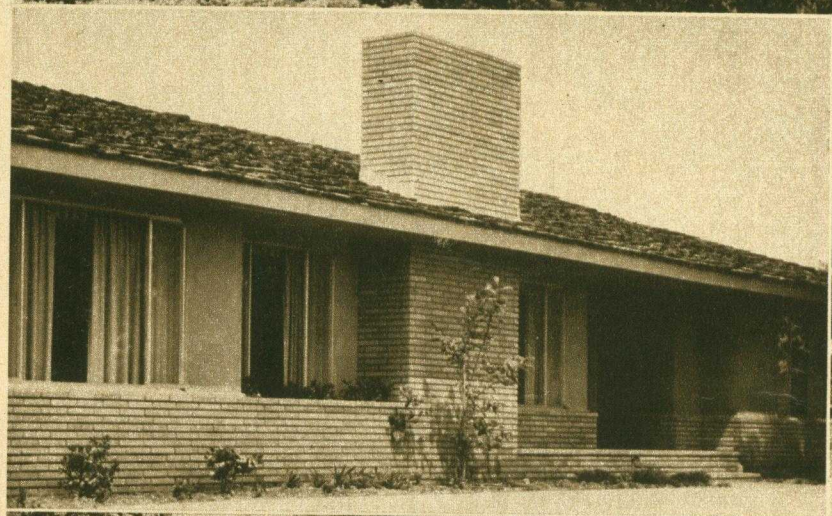
• Another corner fireplace with metal hood augmenting the brick chimney, a crane and kettle to keep the coffee hot.

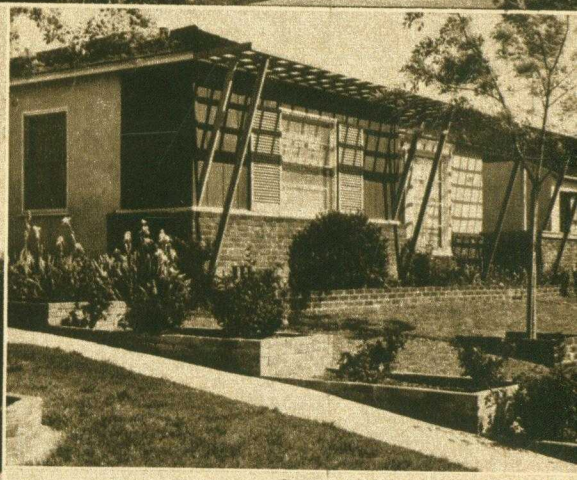


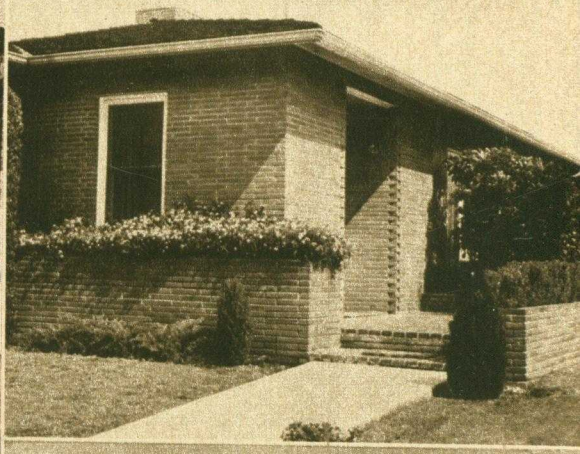
• Owner-built terrace has one of the oldest type barbecues known—the Chinese oven or pit. Irregular brick retaining walls are planted with flowers; small curved pool completes the hospitable picture.

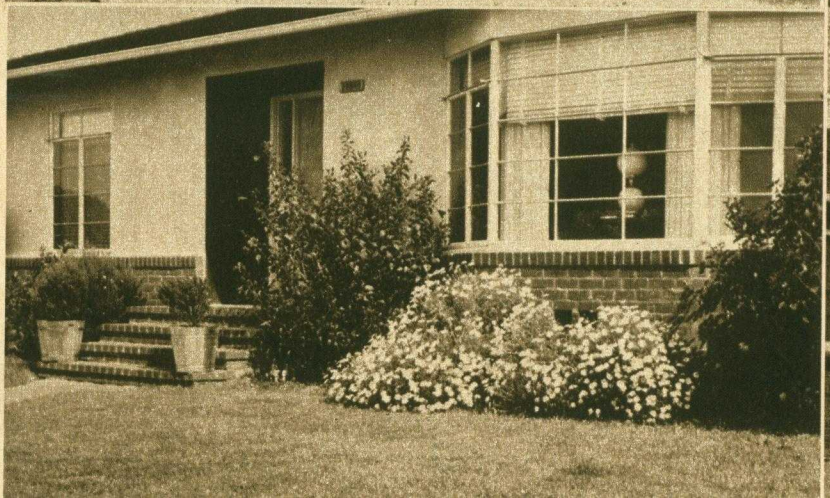
give your house distinction with Brick VENEER—

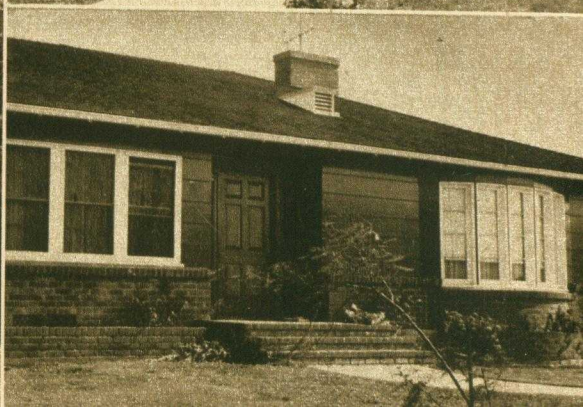






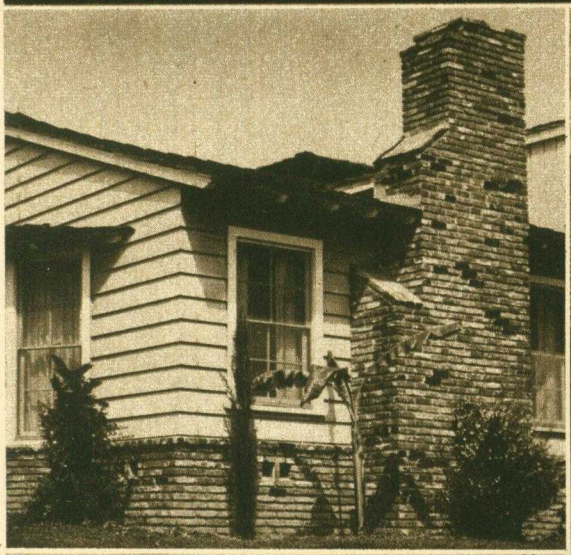


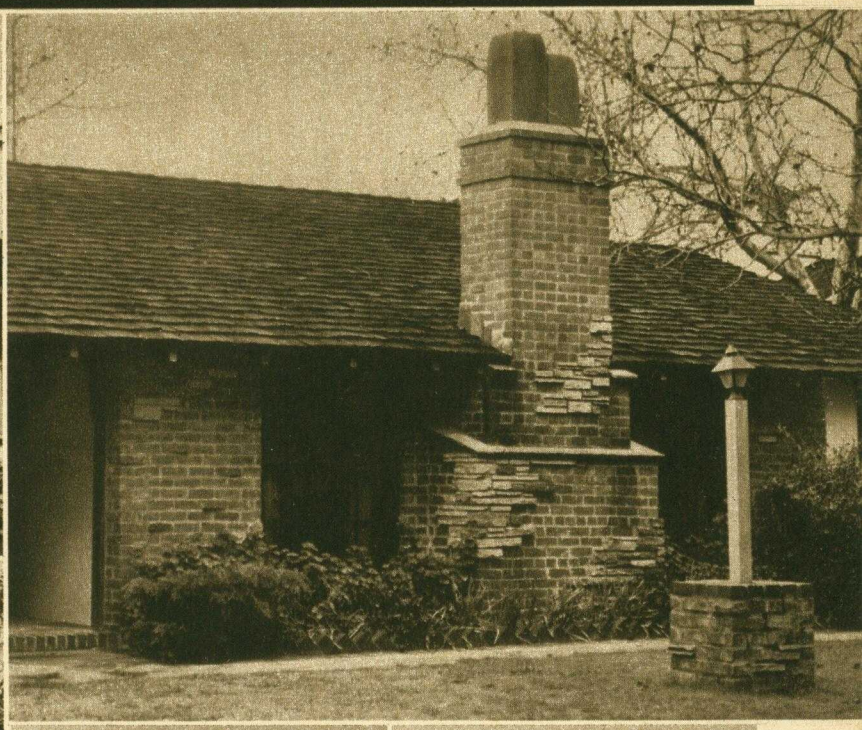


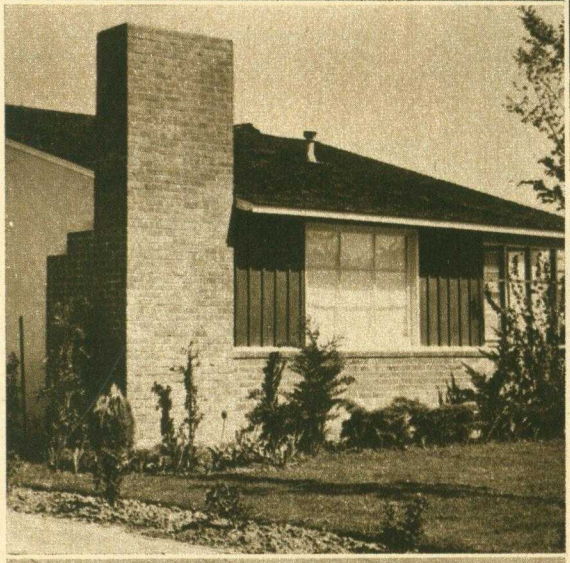


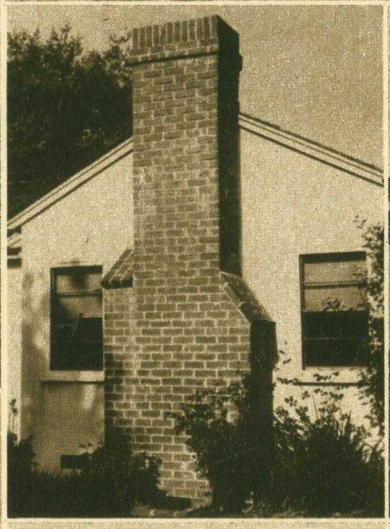
CHIMNEYS OF BRICK

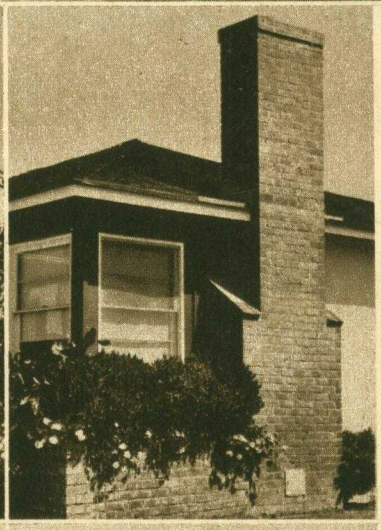
enrich your house with color and good design

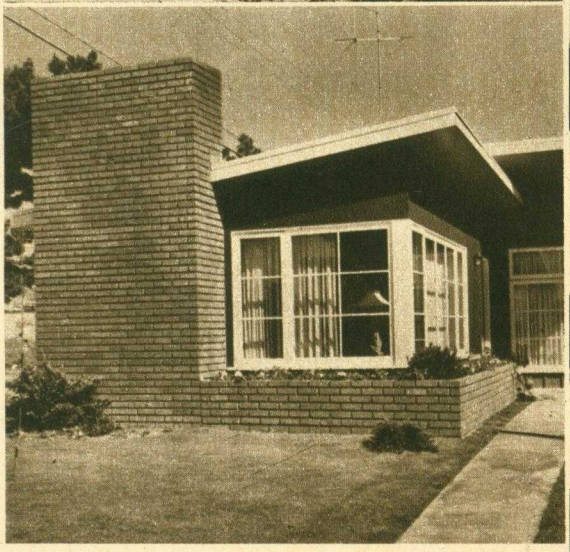


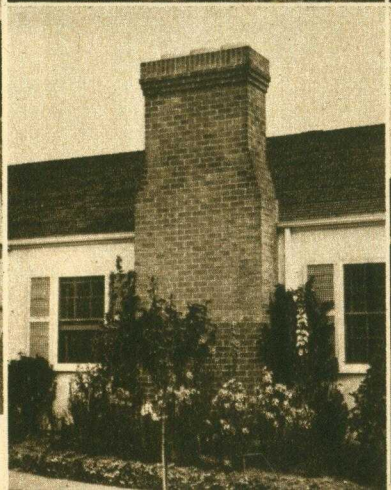


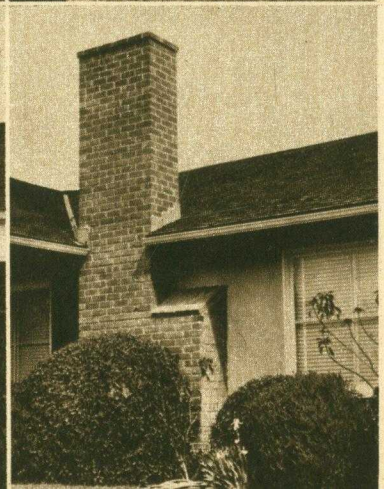










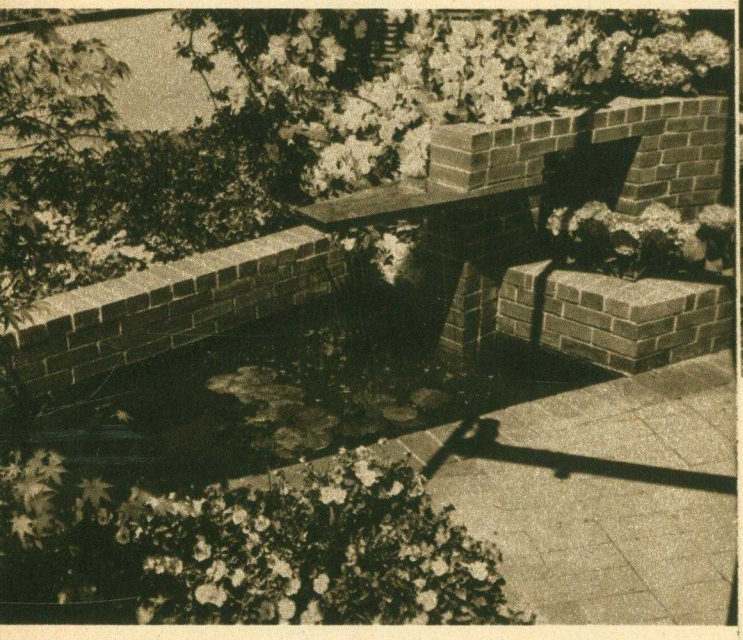


Brick in the garden—POOLS

• Small circular pool is focal point of gay flower beds, lawn and terrace paved with pebbles.

• Indoor-outdoor terrace pool wanders into the living room under a wide wall of glass.

• Brick is most practical of all decks around a swimming pool —slip-proof, quick-drying, colorful, and cool to the bare foot.



• Running water adds magic to any garden. Here a simple fountain splashes on the lily pads of a small pool of interesting design.

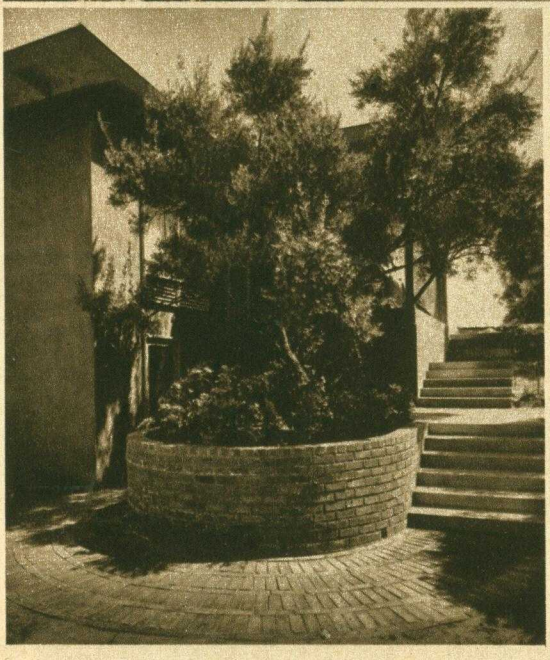
Photographs in "Brick at Home" are by George R. Szanik, Julius Shulman, Paul Holloway, George de Gennaro, Harry H. Baskerville, Jr., George Anderson, Philip Fein, Robert C. Cleveland, Maynard L. Parker, Max Tatch, Edward Lester Smith, George E. Peterson, W. Roy Watson and Norman W. Kelch.

*GARDENING WITH BRICK

Burned clay brick blend beautifully with all natural elements which come from the earth, particularly plant life. It is an honest and sturdy material which enriches in color and warmth during its almost ageless life. Bricks are small, easy to handle, and a real joy to use in a multitude of ways around the home for walks, walls, steps, planters, barbecues, facing over other material, and the like.

A tremendous satisfaction is gained by actually placing or laying brick yourself, and it is not at all difficult. Give a backyard engineer a dozen bricks for his birthday and you've really started something. Naturally, the more efficient you become, the better the work will look. Do not expect to advance from amateur to expert over night. Many times a rough or rugged type of brickwork looks better for some purposes than a finished or tailored appearance.

Before starting your "gardening with brick" consult your local Building Materials Dealer for sizes, colors and textures of common brick, face brick, brick-blocks, paving tiles, etc., also sand and mortar materials and working tools. One size of brick is mentioned herein for illustration only.



• Tree well, graceful curved wall and deep, shallow steps give distinction and charm to a two-level garden. Terrace paving is laid dry.

• Necessary excavation doomed this fine olive tree . . . a simple circular wall saved it. A tree well, which the amateur finds easy to build, can become the decorative highlight of a garden.

BRICK: Common brick and Face brick are usually various shades of red in color and are approximately 2½ by 4 by 8 inches in size. A wide variety of other sizes and colors as well as various textures are obtainable. Heavy duty brick-blocks are available in some areas for use in walls, and are approximately 3½" high, 11½" long, and both 6" and 8" in wall thickness.

MORTAR: A good all purpose mortar is composed of 1 part portland cement, and 1 part hydrated lime (or lime putty), and about 5 parts of clean sand, and water, or, 1 part Plastic or Masonry cement and about 3 parts sand, and water. Any size container or shovel may be used to measure the "parts". Mortar should be thoroughly mixed until very plastic before it is used. It should be maintained (by adding water and re-mixing) soft and plastic while using it.

TOOLS: Bricklaying tools are basically a trowel, a brick set (or brick chisel), a level, and a stout line or cord, all obtainable from a dealer. Bricklayers use other tools such as jointers, pointers, etc., but simple substitutes can be used effectively for striking joints, etc.

*By NORMAN W. KELCH, A.I.A.

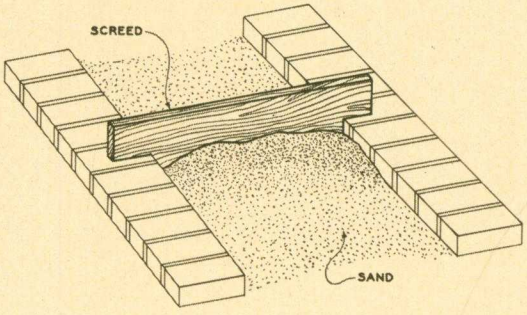
paving with BRICK

• Terrace is dramatized by low wall and planting bed against the house; the re-circulating garden pool and curved path accent the garden below.

• Closer view shows the fine shadow line made by extending top course of the tread over the riser . . . the simple brick border edging the flower bed.

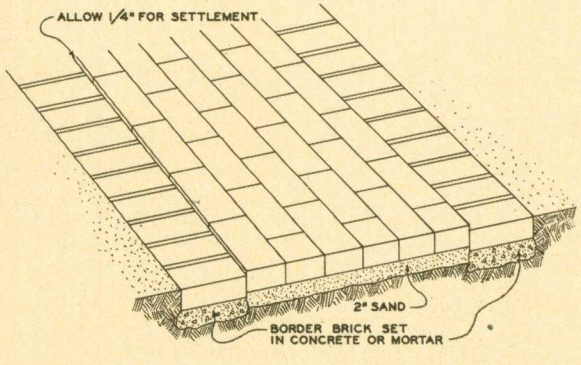
Brick paving may be laid "dry" or with mortar. Laying brick "dry" is much easier to do. Always grade the ground so the paving will have a slope of at least 1 inch in each 8 feet which will take care of drainage. After grading, place about 2 inches of sand over the area and tamp it down firmly to the finished grade. Lay the brick as close together as possible and sweep sand into the cracks. This is a simple job for the amateur.

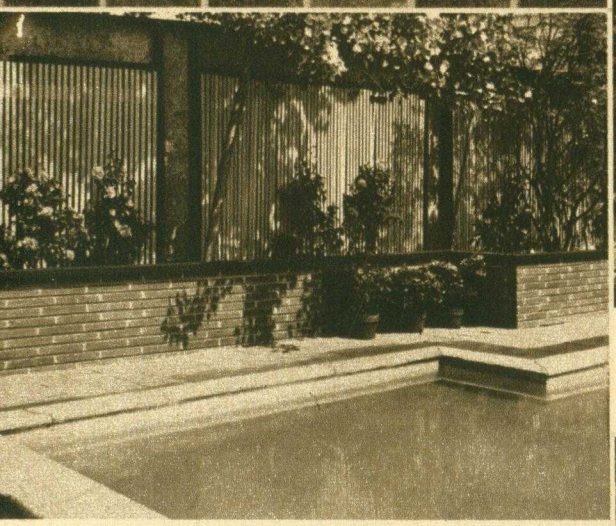
Another method for laying brick in sand is to space the brick ½ inch apart and sweep in a dry



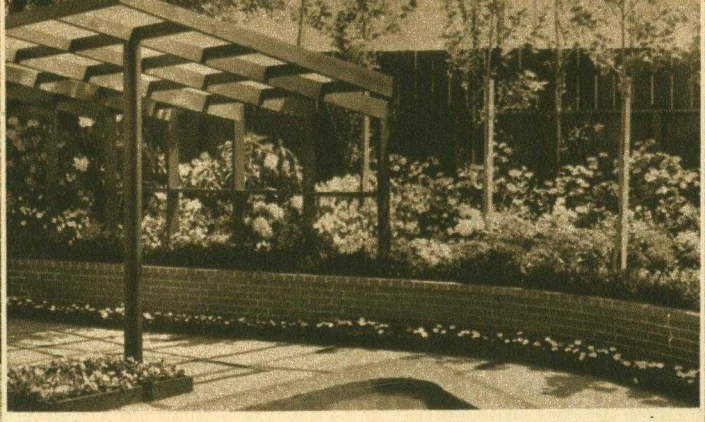
mixture of 1 part cement and 4 parts sand to fill all joints, removing all surplus material, and then wet down with a fine spray. Clean off any cement stains from the brick on the following day with water and a stiff broom or fiber scrub brush. To give a firm, tight edge to this kind of paving, the outside courses should be laid with mortar or held firmly in place by a sturdy redwood edging.

For a more permanent job and one which is easy to keep clean, brick should be laid with full mortar joints which may be smoothed or cut off flush. Smooth joints are made by using a jointer or a piece of bent pipe or the bowl of a large old spoon, pressing the mortar firmly against the edges of each brick. Three simple designs are illustrated, but you can have fun inventing your own design.

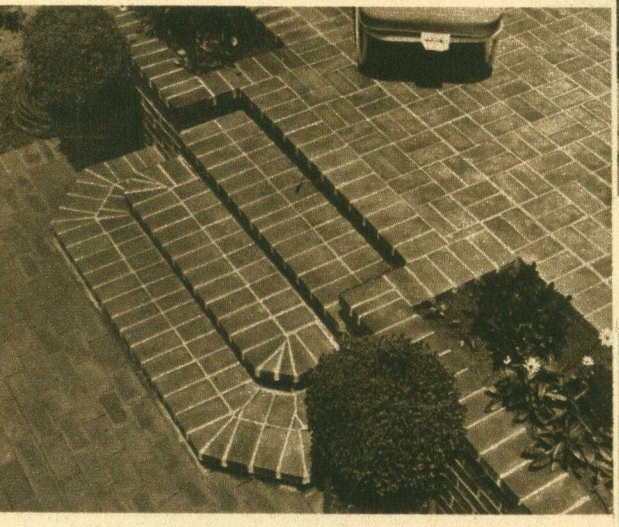




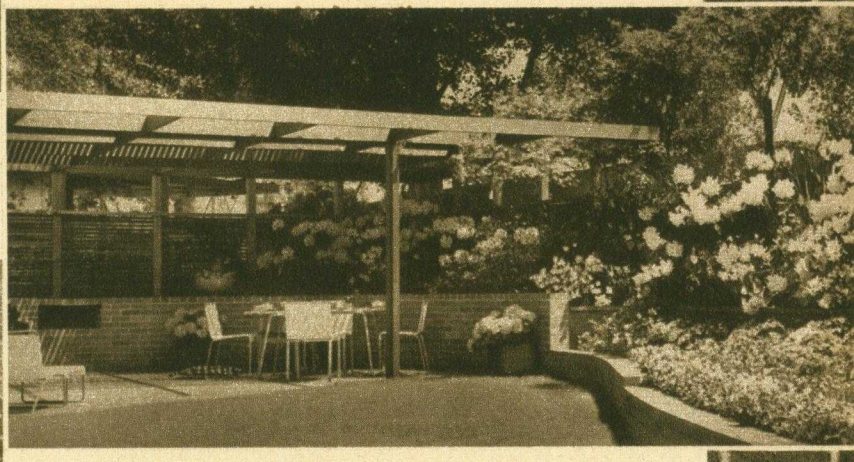
• Wall of face brick makes a tailored background for pool and terrace; sheltering wall behind planting bed is made of redwood slats.



• Low brick retaining wall is a colorful foil for massed background planting, flower bed in front.



• In this well-designed terrace, the upper level is of basket pattern laid in mortar, lower terrace is laid dry. Handsome steps and planting areas separate the two.



• Keynote of a covered terrace is a waist-high wall inset with an open barbecue, curved garden wall six courses high defining the planting area.

• Interesting angle of steps adds variety and distinction to a garden path.

• Handsome path uses herringbone pattern laid dry, edged with straight border of bricks laid in mortar.

GARDEN WALLS

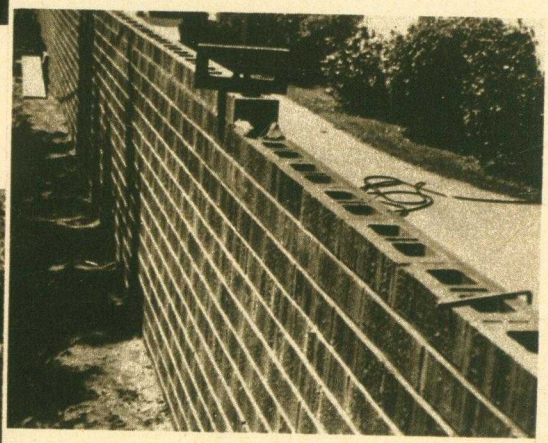
BRICK WALLS: Free standing brick walls, one brick (4 inches) in thickness, may be constructed with pilasters or piers built into the wall about every 10 feet. Retaining walls which hold back the earth should have a good foundation and be at least 2 brick (8 inches) in thickness and be reinforced with steel rods, if necessary.

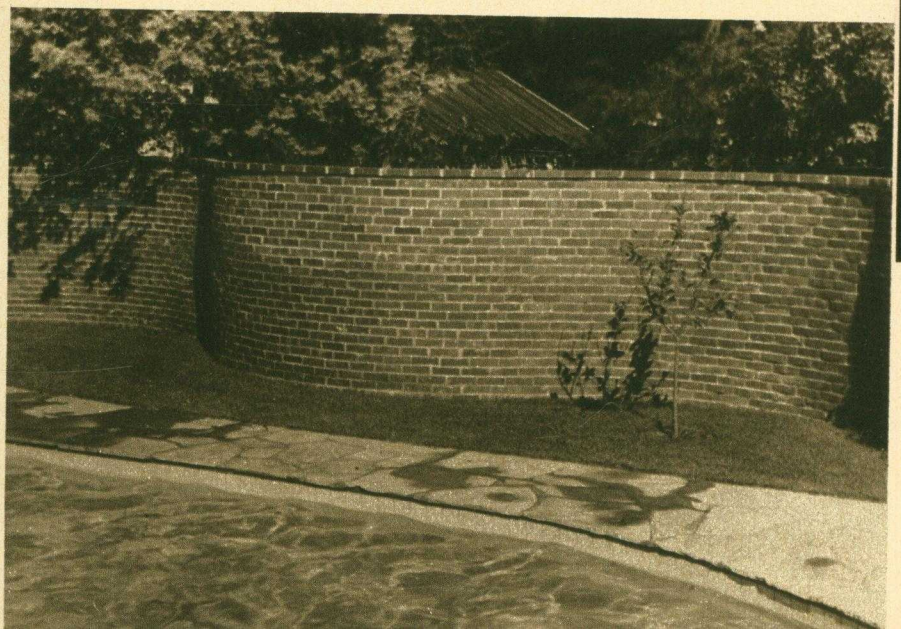
Brick walls may be of numerous designs, curves, etc., and should have a waterproof capping.

• Newest member of the brick family is a structural brick block, ideal for walls and comparable in cost to concrete block construction. No structural pilasters are needed, as steel reinforcing rods can be inserted every few feet and the holes poured with mortar. The brick block has the additional advantage of being waterproof and requiring no final coat of paint; also, being of burnt clay, it is not subject to cracks due to volume change.

• Curving in to meet the terrace steps, this wall's beauty of line is accentuated by shadow lines formed by raking out of mortar between bricks. Notice the single line of brick edging the circular lawn.

• Detail of wall of structural brick block, under construction.





• Serpentine wall is not only highly dramatic but is stronger than a straight wall of the same height and thickness, can be built without pilasters.

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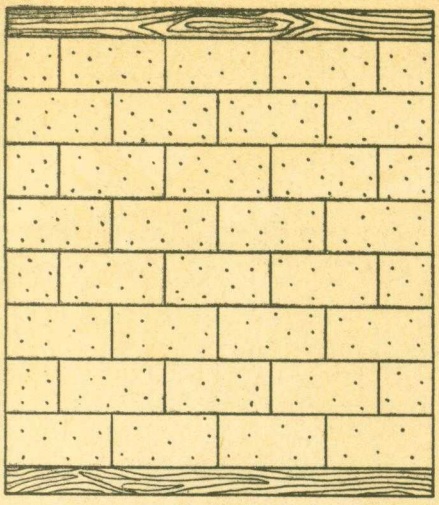
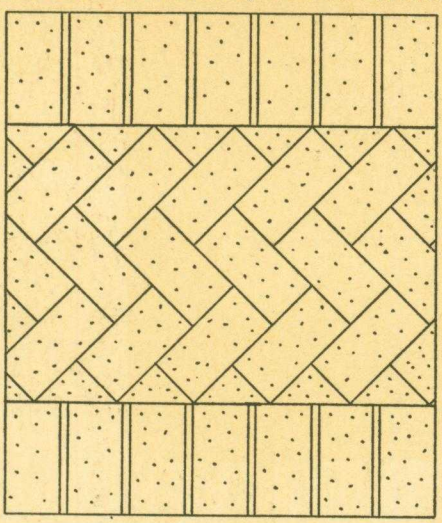
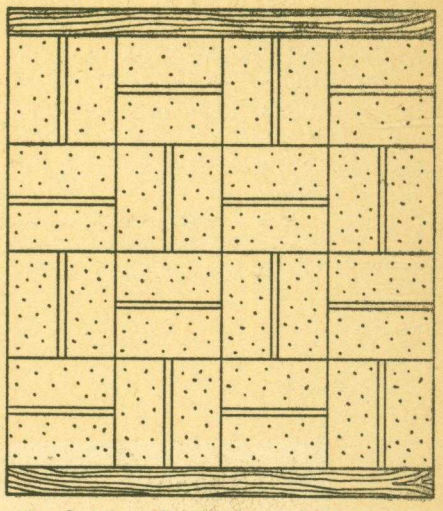
BRICK PAVING LAID DRY, WITHOUT MORTAR



Running Bond — Redwood Edging

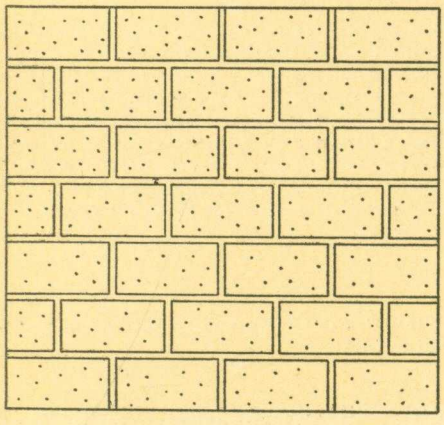


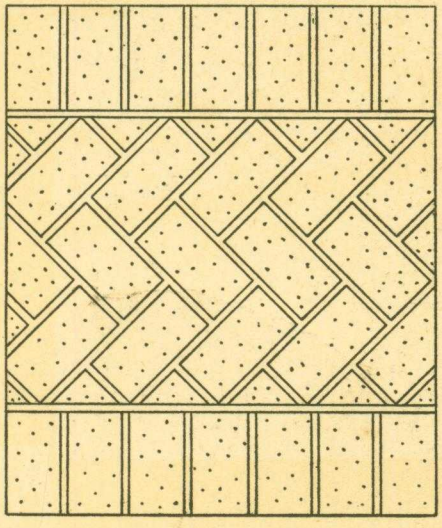
Herringbone Bond
Edging Brick laid with Mortar

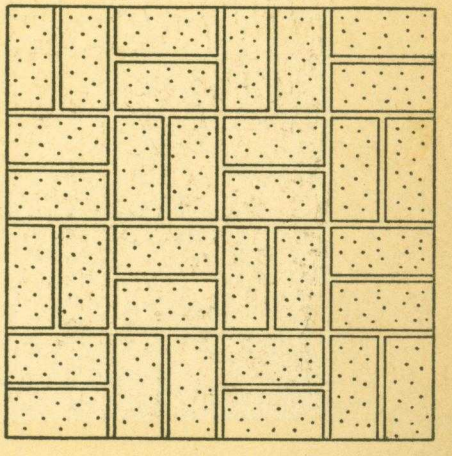


Basket Bond — Redwood Edging

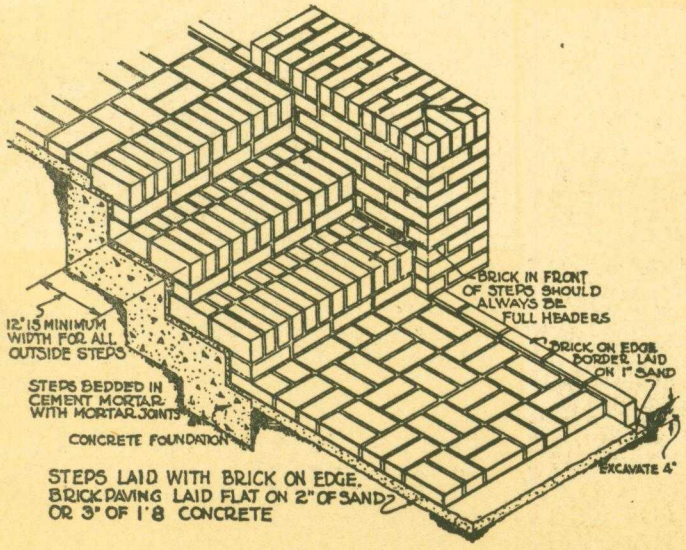
BRICK PAVING LAID WITH MORTAR



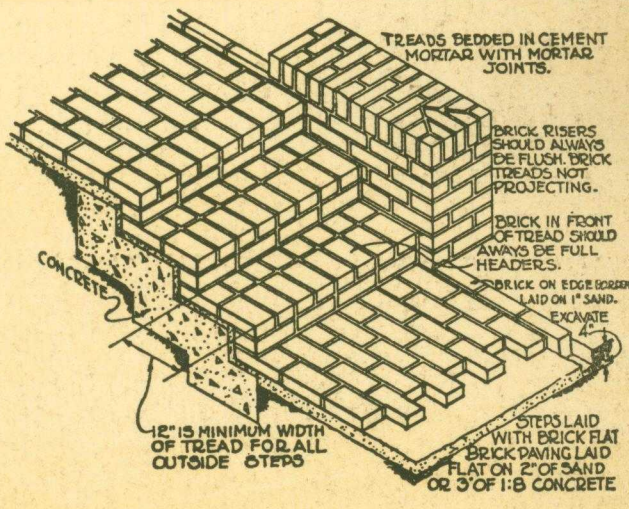
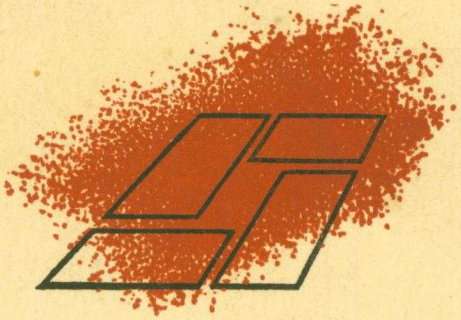




STEPS


BRICK IN FRONT OF STEPS SHOULD ALWAYS BE FULL HEADERS
BRICK ON EDGE BORDER LAID ON 1" SAND
12" IS MINIMUM WIDTH FOR ALL OUTSIDE STEPS
STEPS BEDDED IN CEMENT MORTAR WITH MORTAR JOINTS
CONCRETE FOUNDATION
EXCAVATE 4"

STEPS LAID WITH BRICK ON EDGE.
BRICK PAVING LAID FLAT ON 2" OF SAND
OR 3" OF 1'8 CONCRETE


TREADS BEDDED IN CEMENT MORTAR WITH MORTAR JOINTS.
BRICK RISERS SHOULD ALWAYS BE FLUSH. BRICK TREADS NOT PROJECTING.
BRICK IN FRONT OF TREAD SHOULD ALWAYS BE FULL HEADERS.
BRICK ON EDGE BORDER LAID ON 1" SAND.
EXCAVATE 4"
CONCRETE
12" IS MINIMUM WIDTH OF TREAD FOR ALL OUTSIDE STEPS

STEPS LAID WITH BRICK FLAT
BRICK PAVING LAID FLAT ON 2" OF SAND
OR 3" OF 1:8 CONCRETE